



The Institute of Nautical Archaeology (**INA**) is a 501(c)3 non-profit research organization founded in 1972 by Dr. George F. Bass, the father of underwater archaeology. In 1976, **INA** moved to Texas A&M University (**TAMU**), and the graduate Nautical Archaeology Program (**NAP**) was established as an independent academic unit. In the early 1990s, sizable financial gifts made by **INA** Directors and matched by **TAMU** led to the establishment at **TAMU** of eight faculty endowments and two student scholarships currently worth almost \$9m; three additional gifts by **INA** directors to the **TAMU** Foundation are valued at \$375k. For over 40 years, **INA** has advanced the field of underwater archaeology not only in the U.S., by training future academics, museum curators, and state and federal underwater archaeologists, but around the world, by training students from nearly two dozen countries.

Today, **NAP** has 6 full-time faculty and ~40 graduate students completing either an M.S. in Maritime Archaeology and Conservation or a Ph.D. in Anthropology. **NAP** faculty teach general courses in archaeology and anthropology as well as more specialized courses in ship design and construction, the history of seafaring, naval treatises and maritime communities, and conservation of artifacts from underwater environments. **NAP** students receive field training on **INA**-sponsored shipwreck excavations all over the world, which are directed by **NAP** faculty or by some of **INA**'s more than 50 Research Associates. The synergistic nature of the **INA-NAP** relationship is evidenced by the fact that many **INA** Research Associates are **NAP** graduates. Some **NAP** students design and direct their own fieldwork projects with financial and logistical support from **INA**. Under **INA** President Deborah Carlson, the **INA** Archaeological Committee has awarded \$70,000 annually in support of archaeological fieldwork, including the annual \$25,000 Claude Duthuit grant to a single project. Numerous **INA**-excavated shipwrecks have been and continue to be published in the Ed Rachal Nautical Archaeology Series of **TAMU** Press, and interim reports appear in the *INA Quarterly*, on the **INA** website (www.nauticalarch.org) and in the monthly *INA Insider* e-newsletter.

INA also enjoys numerous assets independent of **TAMU**. The autonomous **INA** Foundation, which is not based at **TAMU**, is currently valued at \$10m. In southwestern Turkey, **INA** built, owns, and operates the Bodrum Research Center (**BRC**), with offices, conservation laboratories and a 10,000-volume research library, at the heart of which is the private collection of classical archaeologist Homer Thompson. The **BRC**'s dormitory and corresponding guest suite accommodate visiting international scholars, researchers, and students. The **BRC** has long served as a base for **INA** surveys and excavations because it is home to **INA**'s brand new \$2m, state-of-the-art 75-foot-long research vessel *Virazon II* and two-person submersible *Carolyn*, as well as a wide variety of excavation and safety equipment, including recompression chambers and remote sensing gear. *Virazon II*, which is the first ship to be built and classed as an Archaeological Research Vessel, is berthed near Bodrum but capable of carrying out fieldwork around the Mediterranean and beyond. The **BRC** is staffed by 20 individuals, most of whom are Turkish citizens.